Envoy Expulsions Widen Cuban, Dominican Rift

Associated Press

Havana, Cuba, May 15 — Already strained relations between Caribbean strong men Batista of Cuba and Trujillo of the Dominican Republic hit a new low today. Each expelled the other's ambassador.

Cuba acted first against Dominican Ambassador Federico Llavrías. The Dominican Republic retaliated against Cuban Ambassador Orlando Duamy Amaut. Both nations emphasized that this did not constitute a break off in diplomatic relations.

Official Cuban sources said a conversation had been recorded in which Llavrias promised Cuban Sen. Rolando Masferrer anything he wanted if he would be friendly to the Dominican government. Masferrer heads a senate investigating committee.

In Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Foreign Minister Herrera Baez called the expulsion an unfriendly act and said his government was forced to take similar action.

Batista for months has been accusing Trujillo of giving aid to Cuban exiles seeking his overthrow. The Dominican generalissimo denies the charges.